

REMARKS

Applicants previously filed an amendment on or about November 26, 2008, and filed an amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 on or about May 13, 2009.

Claim 1 is in the application and is amended herein, based on the claim amendments filed on November 26, 2008, as the May 13, 2009 claim amendments were not entered. Claim 3 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2 and 4-6 were previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new claims have been added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

No new matter is believed to have been introduced to the application by this amendment. The changes to the claims are fully supported by the disclosure, including, for example, figure 1, paragraphs [0013], [0014], [0027], [0030], [0032] and [0033], and previously presented claim 1.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Japanese Patent No. 62-173,142 (Masahito) in view of Japanese Patent No. 5-200,626 (Shichizawa). Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Masahito in view of Japanese Patent No. 1-289,624 (Shoji). These rejections are respectfully traversed, and reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

Claim 3 is canceled, making the rejection of this claim moot.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thoughtful courtesies extended during the telephonic interview held on June 12, 2009. During the interview, Applicants' representative

and the Examiner discussed claim 1. Applicants thank the Examiner for an indication that the claim amendments, as set forth above, would overcome the rejections and that claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience. Applicants' undersigned attorney may be contacted at the address and telephone number set forth below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 502203 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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